

CLAIMS

1. A tail pipe for an automotive exhaust system comprising
a tubular member providing a longitudinal passageway through
which exhaust gas flows between an outer end and an inner end of the
tubular member, said inner end being adapted to be attached to an
automotive exhaust system, and
an ornamental element located at or near said outer end and
mounted to rotate, said ornamental element including a symbol and
being sized to provide sufficient space to allow exhaust gas to flow
through the tubular member and past the ornamental element, said
exhaust gas causing the ornamental element to rotate as said gas flows
past said ornamental element.
2. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the ornamental element is in the
shape of the symbol.
3. The tail pipe of Claim 2 where the ornamental element is
essentially a solid structure that prevents exhaust gas from flowing
therethrough.
4. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the ornamental element comprises
a support member displaying the symbol.
5. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the ornamental element comprises
a vane device having a substantially X-shaped cross-section.
6. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the ornamental element comprises
a vane device having a substantially swastika-shaped cross-section.

1 7. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the ornamental element comprises
2 a vane device having an elongated rod with a pair of intersecting,
3 longitudinal slits therein and a pair of plate members, each plate
4 member having a partial longitudinal slot therein and connected
5 together along their respective slots and each plate member being
6 inserted into one of the slits.

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8 8. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the outer end has a maximum total
9 area and the ornamental element occupies less than 90 percent of said
10 maximum total area.

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12 9. The tail pipe of Claim 8 where said maximum total area is from 8
13 to 20 square inches.

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15 10. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the tubular member and
16 ornamental element are made of stainless steel.

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18 11. The tail pipe of Claim 10 where the tubular member and
19 ornamental element are chrome plated.

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21 12. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the ornamental element is
22 positioned centrally in the outer end.

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24 13. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the ornamental element has at
25 least two connector arms extending outwardly therefrom in
26 substantially opposed directions, each arm having a terminal end
27 attached to an inner surface portion of the tubular member to enable
28 the ornamental element to rotate.

1 14. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the outer end is at an acute angle
2 with respect to a longitudinal axis of the tubular member.

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4 15. The tail pipe of Claim 14 where the acute angle is from 35 to 85
5 degrees.

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7 16. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the symbol is in the form of letters
8 or numbers or combinations thereof.

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10 17. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the ornamental element has a light
11 reflective portion corresponding to the symbol.

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13 18. The tail pipe of Claim 17 where the ornamental element is made
14 from heat resistant material.

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16 19. A tail pipe ornament comprising
17 a sleeve adapted to fit snug within a tail pipe of an automotive
18 exhaust system, said sleeve having a longitudinal passageway extending
19 between an outer end and an inner end of the sleeve, and
20 an ornamental element located at or near said outer end and
21 mounted to rotate, said ornamental element including a symbol,
22 said ornamental element being sized to provide sufficient space
23 to allow exhaust gas to flow through the sleeve and past the
24 ornamental element, said exhaust gas causing the ornamental element
25 to rotate as said gas flows past said ornamental element.

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27 20. The tail pipe of Claim 19 where the ornamental element is in the
28 shape of the symbol.

1 21. The tail pipe of Claim 19 where the ornamental element is
2 essentially a solid structure that prevents exhaust gas from flowing
3 therethrough.

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5 22. The tail pipe of Claim 19 where the ornamental element
6 comprises a support member displaying the symbol.

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8 23. The tail pipe of Claim 19 where the ornamental element
9 comprises a vane device having a substantially X-shaped cross-section.

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11 24. The tail pipe of Claim 19 where the ornamental element
12 comprises a vane device having a substantially swastika-shaped cross-
13 section.

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15 25. The tail pipe of Claim 19 where the ornamental element
16 comprises a vane device having an elongated rod with a pair of
17 intersecting, longitudinal slits therein and a pair of plate members,
18 each plate member having a partial longitudinal slot therein and
19 connected together along their respective slots and each plate member
20 being inserted into one of the slits.

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22 26. The tail pipe of Claim 19 where the outer end has a maximum
23 total area and the ornamental element occupies less than 90 percent of
24 said maximum total area.

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26 27. The tail pipe of Claim 26 where said maximum total area is from
27 8 to 20 square inches.

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29 28. The tail pipe of Claim 19 where the tubular member and

1 ornamental element are made of stainless steel.

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3 29. The tail pipe of Claim 28 where the tubular member and
4 ornamental element are chrome plated.

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6 30. The tail pipe of Claim 19 where the ornamental element is
7 positioned centrally in the outer end.

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9 31. The tail pipe of Claim 19 where the ornamental element has at
10 least two connector arms extending outwardly therefrom in
11 substantially opposed directions, each arm having a terminal end
12 attached to an inner surface portion of the tubular member to enable
13 the ornamental element to rotate.

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15 32. The tail pipe of Claim 19 where the outer end is at an acute angle
16 with respect to a longitudinal axis of the tubular member.

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18 33. The tail pipe of Claim 32 where the acute angle is from 35 to 85
19 degrees.

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21 34. The tail pipe of Claim 19 where the symbol is in the form of
22 letters or numbers or combinations thereof.

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24 35. The tail pipe of Claim 19 where the ornamental element has at
25 least a portion that is light reflective.

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27 36. The tail pipe of Claim 35 where the portion that is light reflective
28 corresponds to the symbol.

37. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 19 where the sleeve comprises a substantially cylindrical wall member having an inside diameter from 2 to 7 inches, a length from 1/4 to 6 inches, and a thickness from 1/8 to 1/2 inch.

38. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 19 including a fastener element that enables the tail pipe ornament to be connected to a tail pipe of an automotive exhaust system in a fixed position relative to the tail pipe.

39. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 38 where the fastener element is between the ornamental element and the inner end.

40. A tail pipe ornament including
a sleeve comprising a substantially cylindrical wall member having an inside diameter from 2 to 7 inches, a length from 1/4 to 6 inches, and a thickness from 1/8 to 1/2 inch,

said sleeve having a longitudinal axis and providing a cylindrical passageway extending between an outer end and an inner end of the sleeve, said outer end being at an acute angle from 35 to 85 degrees with respect to said longitudinal axis of the sleeve,

an ornamental element including a symbol and mounted to rotate at or near said outer end and sized to provide sufficient space to allow exhaust gas to flow through the sleeve and past the ornamental element, said exhaust gas causing the ornamental element to rotate as said gas flows past said ornamental element, and

a fastener element that enables the tail pipe ornament to be connected to a tail pipe of an automotive exhaust system in a fixed position relative to the tail pipe.

41. A tail pipe ornament comprising
a sleeve having a longitudinal axis and a wall member forming a
longitudinal passageway extending between an outer end and an inner
end of the wall member,
a fastener element along the wall member that enables the sleeve
to be connected to an automotive exhaust tail pipe in a fixed position
relative to the tail pipe, and
a vane type ornamental element mounted to rotate at or near the
outer end of the sleeve,
said ornamental element being essentially a solid support
member that prevents exhaust gas from flowing therethrough and
displays a symbol thereon and has a substantially X-shaped cross-
section,
said support member having an elongated rod with a pair of
intersecting, longitudinal slits therein and a pair of plate members,
each plate member having a partial longitudinal slot therein and
connected together along their respective slots and each plate member
being inserted into one of the slits.

42. The tail pipe of Claim 41 where the elongated rod terminates in
connector arms extending outwardly from the support member in
substantially opposed directions, each arm having a terminal end
attached to an inner surface portion of the tubular member to enable
the ornamental element to rotate.

43. The tail pipe of Claim 41 where the support member has a
substantially swastika-shaped cross-section.

1 44. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 41 where the fastener element is
2 between the ornamental element and the inner end.

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4 45. In combination, a tail pipe of an automotive exhaust system and a
5 tail pipe ornament,

6 said tail pipe having a longitudinal axis and an open outer end
7 and an adjacent internal hollow body portion, said open outer end and
8 adjacent internal hollow body portion being of substantially the same
9 predetermined configuration, and

10 said tail pipe ornament including

11 a sleeve having a longitudinal axis and a wall member
12 with an external configuration substantially the same as the
13 predetermined configuration of said open outer end and
14 adjacent internal hollow body portion of the tail pipe,

15 said wall member forming a longitudinal passageway
16 extending between an outer end and an inner end of the
17 sleeve, and

18 an ornamental element including a symbol mounted
19 to rotate at or near the outer end of the sleeve,

20 said sleeve being inserted into the open outer end and adjacent
21 internal hollow body portion to fit snug within the tail pipe with the
22 longitudinal axis of the sleeve and the longitudinal axis of the tail pipe
23 being coextensive and said ornamental element being sized to provide
24 a sufficient space to allow exhaust gas to flow through the sleeve and
25 past the ornamental element, said exhaust gas causing the ornamental
26 element to rotate as said gas flows past said ornamental element.

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28 46. The combination of Claim 45 where the sleeve and the open
29 outer end and the adjacent internal hollow body portion are of

cylindrical configuration, with the sleeve having an outside diameter substantially the same as an inside diameter of the open outer end and the adjacent internal hollow body portion.

47. A method of decorating a tail pipe of an automotive exhaust system where the tail pipe has a passageway through which exhaust gas flows and exits an exposed, open end of the tail pipe, said method comprising

connecting to the tail pipe an ornamental element at or near said exposed, open end of the tail pipe, said ornamental element including a symbol,

said ornamental element being positioned so that an observer when looking at the exposed, open end of the tail pipe would see the symbol and being sized to provide sufficient space to allow exhaust gas to flow through the tubular member and past the ornamental element,

said ornamental element being mounted to rotate as the exhaust gas impinges against it.

48. The method of Claim 47 where the ornamental element is essentially a solid support member that prevents exhaust gas from flowing therethrough and displays a symbol thereon.

49. The method of Claim 48 where the support member has a substantially X-shaped cross-section, an elongated rod with a pair of intersecting, longitudinal slits therein and a pair of plate members, each plate member having a partial longitudinal slot therein and connected together along their respective slots and each plate member being inserted into one of the slits.

1 50. The method of Claim 48 the support member has a substantially
2 swastika-shaped cross-section.

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